## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 04639 300839Z ACTION L-03

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PORG, UNGA, RP, US

SUBJECT: GOP CANDIDACY FOR VACANCY ON INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION

REF: MANILA 14458, 1976

- 1. SOLICITOR GENERAL MENDOZA CALLED EMBASSY LEGAL OFFICER MARCH 30 AND REQUESTED US SUPPORT FOR HIS CANDIDACY TO INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT IN MARCH 1976 GOP REQUESTED OUR SUPPORT FOR MENDOZA'S CANDIDACY, BUT SUBSEQUENTLY WITHDREW HIS CANDIDACY IN FAVOR OF CANDIDACY FOR CHAIRMANSHIP OF 6TH COMMITTEE. WHILE EMBASSY APPRECIATE OUR TRADITIONAL PRACTICE IS TO SUPPORT CANDIDATES AGREED UPON BY REGIONAL GROUPS, WE UNDERSTAND THAT THERE IS NO REGIONAL CONSENSUS ON THIS "CASUAL VACANCY." THERFORE WE STRONGLY URGE DEPARTMENT CONSIDER SUPPORTING MENDOZA WHO IS IS EXCEPTIONALLY WELL QUALIFIED FOR POSITION AND HAS BEEN CONSISTENTLY HELPFUL TO USG AND EMBSSY ON A WIDE SPECTRUM OF ISSUES.
- 2. BEGIN FYI. WE UNDERSTAND FROM DFA THAT GOP HAS ALREADY INSTRUCTED ITS EMBASSIES IN EACH COUNTRY WITH REPRESENTATIVE ON ILC TO RQUEST SUPPORT FOR MENDOZA. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 MANILA 04639 300839Z

ACCORDING TO DFA (MINISTER BAJA, DEPUTY CHIEF IO DIVISION) THERE ARE NOW FIVE "ASIAN" CANDIATES INCLUDING AFGHANISTAN, SYRIA, IRAQ, UAR, AND CYPRUS. BAJA POINTED OUT THAT WHILE CASUAL VACANCY RESULT OF DEATH OF EUROPEAN (MAHBRO OF NORWAY), EUROPE HAD NINE SEATS ON ILC. HE CLAIMED EUROPE TRADITIONALLY HAS EIGHT. ASIA NOW HAS ONLY FOUR SEATS. USUALLY IT HAS FIVE. END FYI.

	Margaret P. Grafeld	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	22 May 2009
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